



## 2023 Silicon Valley Open

Hosted by the Peninsula Skating Club

[www.peninsulaskatingclub.org](http://www.peninsulaskatingclub.org)

August 4-5, 2023

Solar4America Ice at San José

1500 S.10<sup>th</sup> St., San José, CA

Online Registration Only through EMS

**Entry Deadline: July 7, 2023, 11:59 p.m. PDT**

**(July 8, 2023, 2:59 a.m. EDT)**



*Sanctioned by:*



## **I. COMPETITION OVERVIEW**

2023 Silicon Valley Open will be conducted in accordance with the rules and regulations of U.S. Figure Skating, as set forth in the [current rulebook](#), and/or current Compete USA handbook as well as any pertinent updates that have been posted on the U.S. Figure Skating [website](#).

This competition is open to all eligible, restricted, reinstated or readmitted persons as defined by the Eligibility Rules.

Skaters must be a currently registered member of a U.S. Figure Skating member club, Learn to Skate USA member, a collegiate club or who is an individual member in accordance with the current rulebook. For non-U.S. citizens, please refer to the [rulebook](#) for more information.

### **COVID-19 INFORMATION:**

For the most recent U.S. Figure Skating COVID-19 policy requirements, [CLICK HERE](#). **This policy may be subject to change and may not represent the guidelines in place on the day of competition. It is the responsibility of the attendees to check for the most up-to-date information. All attendees must also comply with the most current Solar4America Ice Rink Covid-19 policies.**

### **SERIES INFORMATION:**

2023 Silicon Valley Open is approved by U.S. Figure Skating as part of the Solo Dance Series. Please refer to the [2023 Solo Dance Series Handbook](#) for more information about the Series requirements.

2023 Silicon Valley Open is an approved NATIONAL QUALIFYING SERIES (NQS) competition, for Partnered Dance only. Please refer to the [NQS Announcement](#) for more information about the Series requirements, registration and competition information.

## **II. ELIGIBILITY**

### **TEST LEVEL:**

As of December 1, 2022, singles athletes may opt to accelerate their test progression within U.S. Figure Skating and thus compete at level(s) best suited for their technical skillset. Athletes must still meet the minimum requirements for each level and additionally, if participating within the National Qualifying Series (NQS) or National Excel Series (Excel), they will establish a **competitive floor** (i.e., the lowest level they can compete at).

The **competitive floor** is determined only by the level selected through the EMS Series Application for NQS or Excel and is not uniquely tied to competition registration (regardless of series participation).

*Example, if an athlete passed their junior free skate test in November and competed in the 2022-23 NQS as a Novice from July - September, they may register for either novice or junior in excel or well-balanced events. The novice level will remain their competitive floor until they complete an EMS Series Application at the junior level or higher for NQS or Excel.*

*Example #2, if an athlete passed their juvenile free skate but has not competed in NQS or Excel (i.e., they have not established a competitive floor), they have the option to compete pre-preliminary – intermediate*

(if skate up is permitted). While the options are wide, U.S. Figure Skating entrusts the coach to guide the athlete to select the appropriate level for the athlete based on their technical skillset.

Eligibility Notes:

1. The singles free skate test levels will remain as a minimum requirement to compete.
2. Athletes may not skate down in any event.
3. This update does NOT apply to Adult, Showcase and Solo Dance.

If an athlete, coach, parent and/or guardian needs assistance with confirming their eligibility, email [events@usfigureskating.org](mailto:events@usfigureskating.org) or refer to information sheet [HERE](#).

**Age restrictions/requirements:** Singles free skate (well-balanced program) and short program events have the following requirements. Skater's age on the entry deadline will be age used for age restricted events.

- Juvenile: Girls – 12 years or younger; Boys – 13 years or younger
- Open Juvenile: Girls – 13 years or older; Boys – 14 years or older
- Intermediate must be under the age of 18
- Young Adults must be 18 – 20 yrs
- Adults must be 21 years or older

Skaters entering pre-juvenile and lower events will be divided as closely as possible by age should the number of entries warrant more than one group.

**EVENTS OFFERED:**

[Program requirements for the events listed below can be found here: usfigureskating.org – Skate – Compete – Program Requirements](#)

NOTE: Skaters may not enter an Excel and Well-Balanced free skate events at the same competition. Further, a skater may enter only one event in each discipline, e.g. Free Skate, Short Program.

Genders may be combined in adult events, Compete USA events, and Pre-Juvenile and lower-level Excel and Well-Balanced Free Skate events depending on the number of entries and at the discretion of the chief referee.

Solo Dance Series events will be held, and levels not combined, when there is a single entrant in the event. For all other SVO 2023 events, the chief referee, at her discretion, may combine close levels to create competition for events with single entrants. In the event the chief referee is not able to create competition for a single-entrant event by combining close levels, single entrant events will be held, even for non-Solo Dance Series events.

SINGLES	JUDGING	1 <sup>st</sup> Event Price	2 <sup>nd</sup> Event Price
Excel Free Skate, Beginner, High Beginner	6.0	\$120	\$75
Excel Free Skate, Pre-Preliminary – Senior	IJS	\$145	\$75
Well Balanced Short Program, Juvenile – Senior	IJS	\$145	\$75

Well Balanced Free Skate, No Test	6.0	\$120	\$75
Well Balanced Free Skate, Pre-Preliminary – Senior	IJS	\$145	\$75
Adult Free Skate, Pre-Bronze – Bronze	6.0	\$120	\$75
Adult Free Skate, Silver – Masters	IJS	\$145	\$75
Critique: IJS-judged Singles Free Skate & Short Program	IJS	\$35	\$35
Test Credit: Free Skate, Free Dance, & Solo Free Dance	IJS	\$10	\$10
<b>SOLO DANCE - NSDS</b>	<b>JUDGING</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Event Price</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Event Price</b>
Solo Pattern Dance	IJS	\$150	\$100
Solo Combined Dance	IJS	\$200	\$100
Shadow Dance	IJS	\$200	\$100
<b>COMPETE USA EVENTS</b>	<b>JUDGING</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Event Price</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Event Price</b>
Snowplow Sam – Basic 6 Program w/ Music	6.0	\$100	\$55
Pre-Free Skate – Free Skate 1-6 Program w/ Music	6.0	\$100	\$55
<b>ADAPTIVE</b>	<b>JUDGING</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Event Price</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Event Price</b>
Adaptive Skating	6.0	\$50	\$50

**All fees including late fees, must be paid by 11:59 pm on July 28, 2023 (PDT). If a skater has unpaid fees after that date, the Local Organizing Committee may withdraw the skater from all entered events. No refund will be available if the Local Organizing Committee withdraws a skater due to unpaid fees. No payments will be accepted at the competition.**

**Registration for ALL events must be completed through EMS.**

**TEST CREDIT:**

Skaters in events that meet the requirements for test credit may sign up for Test Credit through EMS. There is a \$10 fee per application. Signups will not be taken at the competition or after the competition. If the skater has completed all requirements to pass, the test credit report packet will be available to be picked up at the Registration Desk after the event results have been finalized. Please remember that the test credit packet must be submitted to the skater’s club’s test chair for processing.

**CRITIQUES:**

Critiques will be offered for IJS-judged Singles Short Program and Free Skate programs. You must sign up for critiques through EMS. Sign-ups will not be taken at the competition.

**OUR COMMUNITY:**

U.S. Figure Skating is dedicated to fostering a culture of belonging and community that is welcoming for all individuals. We are committed to championing diversity, equity and inclusion and understand its value in combating discrimination and challenging inequalities necessary to develop champions both on and off the ice. We are actively working toward developing equitable practices and policies that foster safety and empower all individuals to authentically pursue their unique path in all areas of our sport. We stand firmly on the belief that our members are the most important asset to our organization and that our differences are meaningful and strengthen our sport. We believe that skating is for everyone.

### **NON-DISCRIMINATION:**

U.S. Figure Skating commits in policy, principle and practice to sustain a non-discriminatory approach on and off the ice for all members. We strive to provide equal opportunity for all despite their varied backgrounds, experiences and identities, and want all members to feel valued and respected at every level of organization. U.S. Figure Skating's SkateSafe® Program received, investigates and addresses allegations of discrimination or harassment throughout its membership and the organization. Please refer to the most current [SkateSafe® Program Handbook](#) for further definition of harassment, discrimination and abuse.

By attending this event, all participants are willingly committing to upholding U.S. Figure Skating's Code of Ethics (*GR 1.01*) and Code of Conduct (*GR 1.02*), as detailed within the [U.S. Figure Skating Rulebook](#).

To report a concern of discrimination or harassment to U.S. Figure Skating, please visit [www.USFigureSkating.org/SkateSafe](http://www.USFigureSkating.org/SkateSafe) or email [SkateSafe@USFigureSkating.org](mailto:SkateSafe@USFigureSkating.org).

### **SKATESAFE® COMPLIANCE:**

For full details about SkateSafe® compliance at U.S. Figure Skating competitions, refer to the U.S. Figure Skating SkateSafe® webpage: [www.usfigureskating.org/skatesafe](http://www.usfigureskating.org/skatesafe)

### **COACHES**

To be an eligible coach at a nonqualifying competition, coaches must meet the applicable compliance requirements and verified by U.S. Figure Skating. Coach compliance falls into three categories, Coach/Choreographer, Learn to Skate USA Instructor, or Foreign Coach/Choreographer. Details regarding compliance requirements can be found [HERE](#). All compliance requirements must be met at the time of check-in to access the competition, no exceptions.

With EMS, coaches must be included within a skater/team's registration or updated through their EMS Skater Portal via "[My Coaches](#)" or "Team Personnel." All coaches declared at the time of registration will be included on the registration confirmation email. Note: There is no registration approval process within EMS as the data (membership and test level) is tied to the U.S. Figure Skating database. Non-compliant coaches will receive automated email reminders through the start of the competition.

#### EMS Coach Resources (not SYS or TOI):

- [My Competitions](#)
- [My Skaters](#)
- [Coach Schedule](#)

#### EMS Coach Resources (SYS or TOI only):

- [Team Management Guide](#)

### **MANDATORY ATHLETES**

Athletes age 18+ as of the competition start date who will be competing on a team (i.e., synchro, ice dance, pairs, shadow dance, theatre, etc.) with at least one Minor Athlete must complete SafeSport™ Training. \*

Minor athletes who turn 18 mid-season are encouraged to seek parental consent to take the online SafeSport™ Training early to avoid any disruptions in their ability to participate as the training is required upon turning 18. The athlete will not be SkateSafe® compliant until they have completed the training and their Members Only portal reflects completion. Please email [skatesafe@usfigureskating.org](mailto:skatesafe@usfigureskating.org) for instructions or questions regarding parental consent.

### **III. REGISTRATION INFORMATION**

#### **ONLINE REGISTRATION VIA EMS:**

Online registrations will be accepted via [EMS](#). Payment must be made at the time of registration by credit card only. Each transaction includes a 3% transaction fee. **Credit card processing fees will not be refunded under any circumstances.**

Registration Deadline: 07/07/2023 at 11:59 p.m. PDT (07/08/2023 at 2:59 a.m. EDT)

1. Go to [www.usfsaonline.org](http://www.usfsaonline.org)
2. Enter your U.S. Figure Skating or if Compete USA events are offered, your Learn to Skate USA member number and password
  - a. If you need assistance with your member number and password, contact Member Services at [memberservices@usfigureskating.org](mailto:memberservices@usfigureskating.org).
3. Click EMS then “Competition Registration”
4. Choose “**2023 Silicon Valley Open**” from the list of nonqualifying competitions.
  - a. If you need assistance completing your registration, contact [productsupport@usfigureskating.org](mailto:productsupport@usfigureskating.org).

#### **PARTNERED EVENTS:**

Only one partner will complete registration for the team. During the registration process, you will be asked to identify your partner and verify their test information. **The registered partner will be responsible for managing all aspects of the competition for the team including music/PPC upload, practice ice sales, etc.**

#### **FOREIGN SKATERS:**

Non-U.S. skaters intending to register for this competition must set up a non-member account prior to registering for the competition ([click here for HOW TO](#)). This can be done by choosing the “Non-Member? Create Account” option on the [Members Only](#) login page.

#### **MUSIC SUBMISSION/UPLOAD:**

All music must meet the following criteria. If you have questions about what format you have, please contact your coach and get a new version of your music that meets the criteria listed below.

- File Format: MP3
- Bit Rate: 192 kbps or higher and Sample Rate: 44,100 kHz
  - This will be verified by the music chair and they may request **that** you upload a corrected file.

- Leaders and trailers (the silence or "dead space" before and after the actual start and end of the program music) may not exceed two (2) seconds. Excessive leaders and trailers may disrupt the playing of the music during competition.

Competitors must also have a backup copy of their competition music available on a cellphone or other MP3 player and it must be immediately available rink side whenever the skater competes. If the phone or MP3 player does not have the standard round (3.5 mm) headset audio port ("aux port"), an appropriate adapter, such as an Apple Lightning adaptor or USB-C adapter, that will allow the connection of a 3.5 mm headset ("aux") plug must be provided by the skater. If needed, the phone /MP3 player should be presented to the music desk:

1. unlocked and set to never lock,
2. in airplane mode,
3. with the music queued to play,
4. with the volume turned to maximum,
5. and with sufficient charge to play the skater's music.

The music desk will not be responsible for interruptions in the music caused by incoming calls or notifications or by insufficient battery level.

EMS MUSIC UPLOAD: Competitors participating in events with music are required to upload their music to EMS no later than **07/14/2023, 11:59 p.m. PDT (07/15/2023, 2:59 a.m. EDT)**. After this date, skaters will be locked out of this feature and subject to a **\$20 late fee**. The late fee will automatically be added to each skater's cart who doesn't meet this requirement by the deadline. Late fees will not be removed under any circumstances and must be paid by July 28, 2023, 11:59 PM PDT. If a skater has unpaid fees after that date, the Local Organizing Committee may withdraw the skater from all entered events.

**DEADLINE: 07/14/2023, 11:59 p.m. PDT (07/15/2023, 2:59 a.m. EDT)**

EMS SKATER MUSIC UPLOAD HOW TO: [CLICK HERE](#)

*If you need assistance, email [productsupport@usfigureskating.org](mailto:productsupport@usfigureskating.org)*

### **PLANNED PROGRAM CONTENT (PPC) SUBMISSION/UPLOAD – FOR IJS EVENTS ONLY:**

EMS PLANNED PROGRAM CONTENT (PPC) – Competitors participating in IJS events are required to submit PPC in EMS no later than **07/14/2023, 11:59 p.m. PDT (07/15/2023, 2:59 a.m. EDT)**. After this date, skaters will be locked out of this feature in EMS and subject to a **\$20 late fee**. The late fee will automatically be added to each skater's cart who doesn't meet this requirement by the deadline. Late fees will not be removed under any circumstances and must be paid by July 28, 2023, 11:59 PM PDT. If a skater has unpaid fees after that date, the Local Organizing Committee may withdraw the skater from all entered events.

**DEADLINE: DATE: 07/14/2023, 11:59 PM PDT (07/15/2023, 2:59 a.m. EDT)**

EMS PPC UPLOAD HOW TO: [CLICK HERE](#)

*If you need assistance, email [productsupport@usfigureskating.org](mailto:productsupport@usfigureskating.org)*

### **REFUND POLICY:**

Entry fees will not be refunded after entry deadline unless an event is canceled. There will be no refunds for medical withdrawals. Credit card processing fees will not be refunded under any circumstances.

### **LIABILITY:**

U.S. Figure Skating, Learn to Skate USA, Peninsula SC and Solar4America Ice at San José accept no responsibility for injury or damage sustained by any participant in this competition. This is in accordance with Rule 1600 of the official U.S. Figure Skating Rulebook.

## **IV. COMPETITION DETAILS**

### **FACILITIES:**

Solar4America Ice at San José  
1500 S. Tenth St., San José, CA 95112  
408-279-6000  
<https://www.sharksiceatsanjose.com/>

Each rink is 200' x 85' with slightly curved ends. Outside food is not allowed.

Parking Info - <https://www.sharksiceatsanjose.com/about-us/parking-options>

### **LOCKER ROOMS AND CHANGING AREAS:**

Locker rooms and changing areas will not be available at this competition. All athletes are expected to arrive at the arena ready (costumes, hair, make-up etc.). Athletes will be provided with an area to put skates on but changing will not be permitted in these spaces or in rink restrooms.

### **U.S. Figure Skating Travel Policy:**

All travel must strictly adhere to Two-Deep Leadership requirements. An Adult Participant cannot transport a Minor Athlete one-on-one and Two-Deep Leadership requirements must be adhered to at all times during In-Program travel, by transporting at least two minors or a second Adult Participant. An Adult Participant cannot share a hotel room or other sleeping arrangement with a Minor Athlete(s). Full details of the SkateSafe® Travel Policy and any exceptions can be found starting on page 12 of the [SkateSafe® Handbook](#).

### **OFFICIAL WEBSITE & UPDATES:**

Skating orders and event results will NOT be posted at the rink but will be available online. Skaters are requested to arrive 45 minutes prior to the scheduled time of their event(s). A tentative schedule of events will be posted prior to the competition.

### **SCHEDULE:**

Competitors may be scheduled on any day or time during the announced dates of the competition. The competition and practice ice schedule will be available after the close of entries. All participants will be notified via email once available.

### **PRACTICE ICE:**

A limited amount of practice ice *may* be offered, depending on availability of ice time. Practice ice availability will be determined after the close of entries. We cannot guarantee that we will be able to



offer practice ice for competitors in all events.

All sessions are 20 minutes in duration. There will be no refunds for practice ice, even if not used. No music will be played on practice ice.

**Open Sales:** Skaters will have the opportunity to purchase and select practice ice sessions through EMS. More information will be available on our [competition website](#) after close of entries and once the competition schedule is finalized.

### **ONSITE CHECK-IN:**

Check-in will open on August 4, 2023, one hour before the start of the competition and run through the last event of each day of competition. The registration table will be located inside the entrance to the Sharks (Teal) rink south of the main entrance to the facility. Skaters are requested to arrive at least 45 minutes prior to the scheduled time of their event.

### **AWARDS:**

Medals will be awarded to 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> places and will be distributed at the registration table as soon as possible after the conclusion of each event.

**Special Ernie Burden Award:** To honor the memory of Ernie Burden, who was a long-time skater, judge and member of Peninsula SC, the Burden family has created an annual award, the Ernie Burden Award. The award will be given to the Novice Men competitor with the highest interpretation program component score in his free skate. This award is for the competitor to keep. If there is only one competitor in Novice Men free skate, then the award shall be given to the Novice Woman with the highest Interpretation program component score in her free skate provided there is more than one competitor in the Novice Women free skate.

### **VOLUNTEER INFO:**

We need your help. Volunteers are essential for running our competition and supporting our skaters. Becoming a volunteer for SVO is easy - you can sign up on SignUpGenius beginning in mid-July. Most opportunities do not require previous experience. After you sign up, you'll be contacted by the Volunteer Coordinator to confirm your role and scheduled time.

### **VOLUNTEER COMPLIANCE:**

Reminder: Compliant positions at all U.S. Figure Skating events include key LOC members, locker room monitors and ALL medical event personnel. [Click here for volunteer compliance information.](#)

### **PHOTO/VIDEO:**

Spectators are reminded that flash photography is dangerous to skaters and is strictly prohibited. Personal video cameras are permitted from the audience stands only. Filming from the coaching area or hockey boxes is not allowed. Only battery-powered video units are allowed; electrical cords or tripods are not permitted in the arena. A professional videographer and action photographer will be on-site and videos or action photos of your skater may be available for purchase.

**Note: Per U.S. Figure Skating policy, photographing and/or recording anyone other than your own skater is strictly prohibited.**

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

A courtesy block of hotels is available at special rates for this competition. Please go to the following site to view the list of hotels and make your reservation:

<https://book.passkey.com/event/50551458/owner/4304/home>

**CONTACT INFORMATION:**

Competition website: [www.peninsulaskatingclub.org](http://www.peninsulaskatingclub.org)

For questions, please contact the Competition Registrar:

Competition Chair:	Wei Jing	
Competition Chair:	Linda Price	
Chief Referee:	Kathleen Krieger	
Practice Ice Chair:	TBD	
Registrar:	Beth Bottos	<a href="mailto:registrar@peninsulaskatingclub.org">registrar@peninsulaskatingclub.org</a>